

Democratic Party of Illinois
C00167015

Reference: Amended October Monthly Report (09-01-2010 - 09-30-2010), received 01-27-2011

We write to respond to the Commission's letter dated April 7, 2011, regarding the Committee's Amended October Quarterly Report. The letter asks about the Committee's transfer and subsequent payment of Levin funds for an absentee ballot application, with the transfer disclosed on Schedule H5, and the payment on Schedule H6.

Point 1: The cost of the absentee ballot application was \$130,000. The Committee transferred \$100,000 in Levin funds to pay the Levin share, which was within the applicable ratio. The expenditure was Levin-eligible, because it did not refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office. Because of a data entry error, the description of the payment on Schedule H6 incorrectly listed five federal candidates; these candidates had been identified not on the referenced absentee ballot application, but rather on a different sample ballot for which the Committee had paid entirely with federal funds. The Committee is amending its report to correct this error.

Point 2: The expenditure for \$130,000.00 that appears on schedule H6 described as 'Absentee Ballot Application - Gianulious, Seals, Foster, Hare, Halvorson' incorrectly included the names of federal candidates. In fact, the Absentee Ballot Application was simply a form that a voter could send to the election authority to request an absentee ballot. It did not contain the names of any candidates, federal or local, nor did it have any political party reference. Because we believe the production and distribution of the form constituted 'federal election activity' without reference to specific candidates, we made the expenditure with the appropriate amount of federal and Levin funds. The inadvertent inclusion of the federal candidates in the description line occurred because the names should have been included in the description line for a 'Sample Ballot' that was paid for using 100% federal funds. Our reports will be amended to correct this transcription error.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the Committee.
